

TORRANCE HERALD

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Torrance, California

SECTION B

WEST BASIN GROUP FORMED TO SEEK BALLOT ACTION ON WATER SUPPLY PROBLEM

The formation of the West Basin Municipal Water District Campaign Committee, an action group which proposes to carry the water problems in this area to a vote of the people, was announced today.

The committee is an outgrowth of the Southwest Water Fact-Finding Committee. That group, after a considerable study, voted unanimously that there was a West Basin water problem and that the sooner citizens and public officials awakened to it, the better.

The new committee is also the answer to an increasing demand from hundreds of business men and property owners throughout the cities of Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Lomita, Lennox, Gardena, Lawndale and adjoining unincorporated areas that some action be started, before further delay brings on irreparable damage.

Officers are B. K. Richardson, Inglewood, chairman; Robert E. Austin, Manhattan Beach, vice chairman; Ernest Hahn, Hawthorne, secretary; and Richard W. Stenzel, Palos Verdes Estates, Robert F. Falconer, El Segundo, F. S. Haynes, Redondo Beach, E. A. Kufus, Lawndale, H. P. Osborne, Lomita, R. H. Silverthorne and Pat MacDonnell, Gardena; Richard G. Thompson, Hermosa Beach, and F. M. Van Norman, Lennox.

As spokesman for the action group, B. K. Richardson of Inglewood, said:

"Southern California has been made great by men of vision who in all their calculations always looked first to water. Los Angeles voted 23 million dollars

in 1905 by a 7 to 1 margin and 220 million dollars for Boulder Dam water in 1931 by a 5 to 1 majority.

"In proportion to population the Owens River bond issue was equivalent to 250 million dollars today; the Boulder Dam venture the equal of voting 350 million dollars by the present tax payers of Los Angeles.

"This required courage and vision, too. When qualified and unbiased engineers tell us that not only the West Basin but all of the coastal plain of Southern California faces certain ground-water shortages in the not distant future, it is my opinion that given the chance to express themselves West Basin voters will quickly settle our problem once and for all at a cost that is comparatively small."

The man of the committee, added: "It is significant that in the recent Inglewood hearing the preponderant opinion of qualified engineers was that the West Basin, which includes Inglewood, has a serious water problem."

"In technical matters, such as water the average citizen must act on the best engineering advice he can obtain so long as that advice is qualified and unprejudiced. We have organized to do just that.

"It is further significant that invariably those citizens who at first question this matter of shortage invariably change their minds when they settle down to a serious study of available facts."

The committee proposes to open headquarters in various cities throughout the area and conduct a dynamic campaign.

More Light In Bars, Eating Places Ordered

An amended ordinance has been adopted by the Board of Supervisors requiring adequate lighting facilities for restaurants, cocktail bars and cafes operating in all unincorporated areas.

According to the ordinance, every public eating place where food is prepared shall be adequately lighted. The term was defined as having a minimum intensity of 10-foot-candles.

In addition to minimum lighting in all rooms where food or drinks are prepared, including the dishwashing section, there shall be a minimum of three-foot candles in all parts of the rooms where food is served.

In commenting on the new regulations, H. A. Young, director of the County Bureau of Sanitation, said "many cocktail rooms, night clubs and cafes are so dark that it is impossible for sanitarians to make adequate examinations, to say nothing of customers being able to see what they are consuming."

Three-County Group Organized To Guard Supply

Formation of the Santa Ana River Water association, which will investigate the adequacy of water supplies in the light of rapid industrial and population growth in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, was announced by George B. Hodgkin, chairman of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce agriculture committee.

Hodgkin said the association represents water suppliers of 69,000 acres of the three counties and declared it was the first tri-county organization ever formed to make a comprehensive study of the water supply and to take concerted action for protection of existing water rights.

Metropolitan Gives Terms To San Diego Group

Of interest to the residents of the San Diego County Water district, the directors of the Metropolitan Water district have laid down terms and conditions under which they consent to the San Diego County Water Authority holding an election to determine whether it shall be annexed to the district, and terms and conditions under which the annexation may take place, if voted on favorably.

Among the terms is a condition that the authority bring into the district the 155 second-foot of Colorado River water to which it has a claim and merge this water into the 1500 second-foot of district water.

The most interesting condition is that of finance, and it provides that the San Diego County Water authority over 20 years pay in equal installments a sum, including interest, that the authority would have paid had it gone into the district at the beginning of the setup in 1929-1930.

A third condition is that the district take over one-half the aqueduct the Navy is building for the authority and that the district pay one-half the \$500,000 a year that the authority agreed to pay the Navy for 30 years to reimburse it for building the structure.

The election is to be conducted along with the next general election Nov. 5.

While Lomita residents Tuesday night in Community Presbyterian church, held a mass meeting to discuss membership in a proposed West Basin water district which would be for the purpose of seeking membership in the Metropolitan Water District, other sections of the West Basin (the area from Inglewood to Long Beach along the coast) already have advanced plans for joining to the point of circulation of petitions to call an election on the matter.

Torrance already is a member of Metropolitan Water District.

Rider Injured As Horse Mixes With 1946 Sedan

Injured in a freak accident Saturday, when the horse he was riding struck, or was struck by a car, Tony Perez, 20, of W. 203rd st., was taken to Torrance Memorial hospital.

The mishap occurred near 203rd and Western ave. where Perez was riding with a friend, Manuel Sanchez, 20617 Lawrence st. Sanchez rode across Western and Perez, trying to follow, collided with the car.

Thrown to the ground, Perez suffered a fractured collarbone and severe concussion, according to physicians.

The car, a 1946 model sedan driven by Mrs. Lloyd Vaughn, 1426 W. 108rd st., came off second best in the encounter, suffering severe "abrasions and contusions" about the doors and top. The horse was led from the scene under its own power, Police Officer L. L. Benton reported.

RECORD REGISTRATION
With net registration of motor vehicles in California as of June 30, 1946, totaling 3,127,439, as compared with 2,967,533 for the same period of 1945, the registration is expected to top all previous registration records.

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